GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3395
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
SANDALWOOD FORESTS
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of Sandalwood forests in the country especially in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any scheme under the consideration of the Government for conservation and protection of Sandalwood forests;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a)As per the available information, Sandalwood trees occur in around 6.40 lakh hectares in the country. In Madhya Pradesh, there are around 6000 hectares of Sandalwood forests.

(b), (c) & (d) Raising plantations of sandalwood on large scale has not been successful and the past experience in raising sandalwood artificially has not proved better than natural regeneration. At present, augmentation of sandal areas by promoting natural regeneration, tending works including bush sowing and protection of selected areas are being undertaken by the State Governments.